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534

first beaten to make it pliable. The helpers then tied on the tow line

[483] and jerked it along the path with cries of "oya hip!" pulling on the "hip".

The workers often hissed as they worked. Several sticks were cut and used as bars to pry the log over roots, etc. If it were running on the side

hill, stakes would be stuck up to keep it from rolling down sideways. Yat,

Wisambi, and War did the most work. The job took about three hours from

[262]

when it was finished; the workers were paid with boiled sago and roast

[465]

pig which Yat's wife had prepared.

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February 14, 1937. Yesterday afternoon Marok set up the centre post for

an extension of his house. He used the same method to move the post as

[483]

with a garamut (song) except that when level ground was reached, the post

was carried on the workers' shoulders. Yat, Kar, Mr., Mrs, and Gwiap

helped. Kar was slightly annoyed at the lack of manpower in the sib.

The post was for an extension in his new house. The hole for it had been partly dug already, having been carefully put in line with the ridge-pole by extending a bamboo and sticking another upright against it.

[804]

The butt of the pole was shaved down a bit so that its diameter did not

vary for the distance it was to be underground, and its diameter was

measured by wrapping a bamboo splint around it and breaking it at the point

of overlap. The hole was widened with this as measure to allow ample

space for the pole. Meanwhile Kar was making the kwata ubonka (the joint

between post and ridge-pole). To do this the required length of the post

was determined by marking on a bamboo the distance between the bottom of the

hole and the extension pole. This was marked off on the post, and it was

nicked to mark it. It was then cut with an axe-shaped wedge. The faces of

the wedge were then concaved with an adze to make a cradle for the ridge

pole. This is to keep the wind from blowing it off.